and IT based consumer service centers. Part-B includes regular distribution strengthening projects. The scheme is being operationalised by Ministry of Power.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India has sanctioned all the projects of 23 districts of Assam with an outlay of Rs. 1660.35 crore. The implementing agency in 7 districts namely Cachar, Dibrugarh, Hailakandi, Karimganj Kokrajhar, Sibsagar and Sonitpur to Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) and the implementing agency in balance 16 districts is Assam State Electricity Board. The implementing agencies have reported that works have been carried out in 192 un-electrified villages besides intensification works carried out in 280 already electrified villages as on 16.09.2008. The electricity connections have been provided to 1360 BPL households as on 16.09.2008. Year-wise allocation of funds under RGGVY has not been envisaged as funds are released in instalments commensurating with the progress reported by the implementing agencies and fulfillment of the conditionalities stipulated in the RGGVY guidelines/sanction letters. Under RGGVY, the Assam State has availed Rs.133.60 crore as on 16.09.2008.

Loss due to release of water from Ranganadi Hydro Electric Plant

278. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made any high level enquiry on the devastation in Lakhimpur district of Assam due to sudden release of water from Ranganadi Hydro Electric Plant Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has fixed any responsibility on such utter negligence of authorities, causing death and misery to lakhs of people; and

(e) whether any compensation has been paid by NEEPCO to the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Ranganadi Hydro Electric Project 405 MW (3x135 MW) developed by NEEPCO on the River Ranganadi in the State of Arunachal Pradesh is run-of-river scheme with a very small pondage. It may be mentioned that a maximum discharge of only 160 Cumec of water can be utilized for generation of power which is eventually diverted from Ranganadi river to the Dikrong through tailrace channel.

Due to heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the River Ranganadi in the evening on 13th June, 2008 the inflow of water in the River increased to the tune of approx. 428 Cumec at 2.45 AM on 14th June, 2008 and to approximately 2120 Cumec at 5.10 AM. The huge inflow (*i.e.* flash flood) could not be stored in the small reservoir of Ranganadi (5.7 Cum. Capacity), and therefore, had to be passed downstream through the spillway meant for this purpose.

It may be mentioned that water from the project after generation is released into the Dikrong river and only the excess water is allowed to pass through in the main Ranganadi river. The flood

which has occurred in the main river would have even been more severe if the project was closed and all the water was allowed to pass through in the main river.

Due to diversion of the water into Dikrong on account of generation from the project to that extent the severity of the flood was reduced in the main river.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation of power to Goa

279. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Goa Government has sought additional power allocation to the State;

(b) whether the State has asked for funds under APDRP;

(c) whether the State Government has sought power from Kaiga Power Plant also; and

(d) if so, the details of each of the proposals and response of Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) A request was received from Government of Goa additional power. Goa has been allocated one percent power from Ratnagiri CCPP of Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Limited (RGPPL) on 21st August, 2008 after finalization of Power Purchase Agreement with M/s. RGPPL and subject to the condition that the beneficiaries maintain letter of credit commensurate with the allocated power.

(b) Government of India has sanctioned projects amounting to Rs. 288.94 crore under investment component of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), out of which APDRP component to be borne by Government of India is Rs. 128.94 crore. Government of India has already released Rs. 113.40 crore. As the State of Goa has utilized only Rs.227.17 crore including the State's share, it is not eligible for further release of further release of fund from Government of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As stated in (a) and (b) above.

Power demand

280. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power demand touched 400 megawatt by April, 2008;

(b) whether demand for power in various States increased due to sudden rise in temperature;

(c) if so, the total demand of power in the country during the last four months;

(d) to what extent Government was able to meet the demand;

(e) what was the total shortage;